In The Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): A catheter water barrier comprising: a section

one layer of waterproof material having a front side, a

back side, and two channels along opposing edges of said one
layer of waterproof material;

and a relatively long tie down strip which is disposed through said two channels; and

a catheter reception pouch which is formed upon said back side of said one layer of waterproof material, wherein said back side of said one layer of waterproof material is adapted to sealingly abut an individual's skin over a catheter, effective to prevent a liquid from entering said catheter.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 1 wherein said section of waterproof material is generally rectangular in shape.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 1 wherein said catheter water barrier further comprises a pair of flaps having longitudinal axes, said flaps being coupled to said section of waterproof material to provide a pouch portion.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 3 wherein said longitudinal axes of said pair of flaps are substantially perpendicular to said channels.



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Claim 5 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 3 wherein said longitudinal axes of said pair of flaps are substantially parallel to said channels.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 1 wherein said section of waterproof material is formed from a polymer material.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 1 wherein said tie down strip is formed from a nylon material.

10 Claim 8 (previously presented): A catheter water barrier comprising a generally rectangular waterproof polymer barrier portion having two channels and a relatively long nylon tie strip which is disposed through said two channels.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 8 wherein said two channels are disposed along opposing edges of said barrier portion.

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Claim 10 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 8 wherein said two channels form an "X"-shaped pattern across said barrier portion.

20 Claim 11 (previously presented): The catheter water barrier of claim 10 wherein said two channels intersect at the approximate center of said barrier portion.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): A method for using a catheter water barrier on a user having a chest catheter is provided, said method comprises the steps of:

providing a catheter water barrier having a barrier portion, at least two channels, and a relatively long tie down strip;

forming a loop by inserting said tie down strip through said at least two channels;

placing the head of said user through said loop;

disposing said barrier portion over said chest catheter; and

tying the ends of said tie down strip together, thereby causing said tie down strip to hold said barrier portion to said user.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:

forming a pair of flaps upon said barrier portion to form a pouch portion; and

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placing said chest catheter within said pouch portion.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The method of claim 12 wherein said step of tying the ends of said tie down strip together, thereby causing said tie down strip to hold said barrier portion to said user further comprises the step of wrapping said ends of said tie down strip around the back of said user.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The method of claim 12 wherein said at least two channels of said barrier portion are formed in a "X"-shaped pattern across said barrier portion and wherein said step of disposing said barrier portion over said chest catheter further comprises the step of placing the intersection of said "X"-shaped pattern above said chest catheter.